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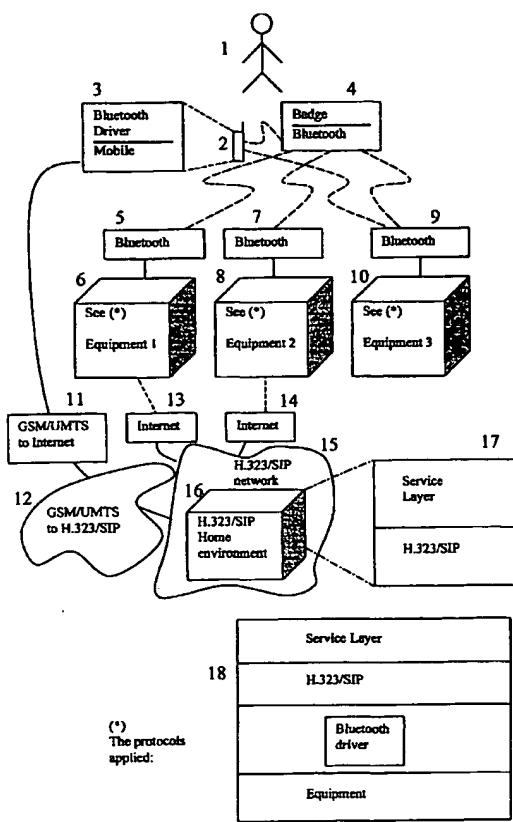
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PACKET BASED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND METHODS



(57) Abstract: An arrangement and method for equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile. Controllable equipment is provided with a first wireless communication device and a user identity badge is provided with a second wireless communication device for communication, when in-range, with said first wireless communication device. A mobile communication terminal in communication with an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and provided with a third wireless communication device. User and equipment identities are communicated to a user profile server connected to said IP network, and a user profile is returned to the equipment which is configured accordingly.

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CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD,
TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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PACKET BASED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND METHODS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to arrangements and methods for remotely configuring personal equipment, and particularly to such arrangements and methods that employ wireless technology.

THE PROBLEM AREAS

Mobile people might like to configure equipment they access to fit their individual needs in an easy way.

KNOWN SOLUTIONS AND PROBLEMS WITH THESE

Manual configuration of the equipment is one known. Another solution is the use of badges or active badges that identify a person with a personal badge towards the equipment which is to be operated.

Manual configuration is often quite time consuming and tedious. The problem by using plain active badges is that each equipment manually has to be configured according to each person's need. I.e. a certain instance of an equipment manually has to be configured for each person that later might use the equipment.

Other issues that not are covered by the known solutions are such as:

- Badge and user authentication as well as general security aspects as encryption and integrity
- How to charge for such services ?
- How may an operator provide such services to its customers ? This items is partly related to the above mentioned functions
- How may an e.g. operator provide badge related services ?
- QoS (Quality Of Service), e.g. which bandwidth should be set-up from the network towards the operable equipment ?

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides an arrangement and a method that provide improvements and advantages over presently known arrangements and methods.

BRIEF DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION.

These and other objects are met by the present invention providing an arrangement with the features defined by the independent patent claims 1 and 4, respectively, and a method with the features defined by the accompanying independent patent claims 11 and 12, respectively. Other advantageous features of an arrangement of the invention are defined by the appended dependent patent claims 2 – 4, 6 – 8 and 9 – 10, respectively. Other advantageous features of a method of the invention are defined by the appended dependent patent claims 13 – 15.

An arrangement according to the invention for automatic equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, comprises: a user identity badge provided with a first wireless communication device having a first identifier, controllable equipment automatically responsive to a user profile and provided with and connected to a second wireless communication device having a second identifier, a mobile communication terminal adapted to communicate by an Internet Protocol (IP) network, said mobile communication terminal being provided with and connected to a third wireless communication device having a third identifier, and a user profile server connected to said IP network and holding the predetermined user profile, wherein said first, second and third wireless communication devices are adapted to communicate with one another, said first wireless communication device is adapted to communicate to said second wireless communication device, when in-range, the first identifier, said second wireless communication device is adapted to communicate to said third wireless communication device, when in-range, the first and second identifiers, the mobile equipment is adapted to communicate to the user profile server the first, second and third identifiers, and the user profile server is adapted to communicate to the controllable equipment, via the mobile terminal, the third wireless device and second wireless device, on basis of the second and third identifiers, the predetermined user profile in response to receiving the first and second identifiers.

In one aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said mobile communication terminal is enabled to communicate to said user profile server, via said

IP network, a user identifier received from said user identity badge, and an equipment identifier received, optionally via said user identity badge, from said equipment.

In a further aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said user profile server is enabled to communicate, via said IP network and said mobile communication terminal and, optionally, via said user identity badge, the predetermined user profile to the identified equipment in response to receiving said user identifier and equipment identifier.

In a further aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said predetermined user profile is stored in a memory of said user profile server.

An arrangement according to the invention for automatic equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, comprises: a user identity badge provided with a first wireless communication device having a first identifier, controllable equipment automatically responsive to a user profile, said controllable equipment provided with and connected to a second wireless communication device having a second identifier, and connected to an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and a user profile server connected to said IP network and holding the predetermined user profile, wherein, said first and second wireless communication devices are adapted to communicate with one another, said first wireless communication device is adapted to communicate to said second wireless communication device, when in-range, the first identifier, said controllable equipment is adapted to communicate to the user profile server, via the Internet Protocol (IP) network, the first and second identifiers, and the user profile server is adapted to communicate to the controllable equipment, via the Internet Protocol (IP) network, on basis of the second identifier, the predetermined user profile in response to receiving the first and second identifiers.

In one aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said equipment is enabled to communicate an equipment identifier and a user identifier received from the user identity badge to said user profile server.

In a further aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said user profile server is enabled to communicate the predetermined user profile to said equipment in response to receiving said user identifier and equipment identifier.

In a further aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said predetermined user profile is stored in a memory of said user profile server.

In a further aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that said IP network is a multimedia network, a H.323 network or a SIP network.

In a further aspect of the invention, the arrangement includes that the first and second wireless communication devices are Bluetooth enabled wireless communication devices.

An method according to the invention for automatic equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, comprises: wirelessly communicating a user identifier from a user identity badge to a mobile communication terminal, wirelessly communicating an equipment identifier from an equipment to be controlled to a mobile communication terminal, forwarding from said mobile communication terminal, via a gateway to an IP network, a first information set including said user identifier and equipment identifier and/or a mobile terminal identifier to a User Agent (UA) in a Internet Protocol network, forwarding from said UA said first information set, via a Call Control API (CC-API), to a Service Agent (SA), returning from said SA a second information set including said predetermined user profile, via said Call Control API (CC-API), to said UA, forwarding from said UA said second information set, via a gateway to a mobile communication network, to said mobile communication terminal, wirelessly communicating from said mobile communication terminal said second information set to said equipment, and configuring said equipment according to said predetermined user profile.

An method according to the invention for automatic equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, comprises: wirelessly communicating a user identifier from a user identity badge to an equipment, forwarding from said equipment said user identifier and an equipment identifier to a User Agent (UA) in an Internet Protocol (IP) network, forwarding from said UA information including said user identifier and equipment identifier, via a Call Control API (CC-API), to a Service Agent (SA), returning from said SA information including said predetermined user profile, via said Call Control API (CC-API), to said UA, forwarding from said UA said predetermined user profile to said equipment, and configuring said equipment according to said predetermined user profile.

In one aspect of the invention, the method includes that said mobile terminal is a mobile telephone, and said mobile terminal identifier includes a telephone number of said mobile telephone.

In a further aspect of the invention, the method includes that said IP network is a multimedia network, a H.323 network or a SIP network.

In a further aspect of the invention, the method includes that wirelessly communicating is performed by of a Bluetooth enabled wireless device.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the following, the invention will be described by way of example, and illustrations thereof in the accompanying drawings, in which:

figure 1 shows a schematic representation of an example of an arrangement according to the invention illustrating how personal settings easily might be applied to equipment;

figure 2 shows an exemplary sequence diagram for an example of the sequence flow of the personal equipment service according to the invention illustrated by using a H.323 network applicable to a situation where the equipment is not connected to the internet; and

figure 3 shows an exemplary sequence diagram for an example of the sequence flow of the personal equipment service according to the invention illustrated by using a H.323 network applicable to a situation where the equipment is connected to the Internet.

Now, referring to fig. 1, an example situation is shown where a person has arrived at a location, where different equipments 6, 8 and 10 are located, and which equipments the person 1 (user) wants to personalize, meaning that the person wants to configure equipment at the location according to her/his personal needs, wishes or requirements. The equipments 6, 8 and 10, could be any controllable or configurable device, such as for instance a communication terminal (for example SIP or H.323), a video or sound player, etc. In this example, two possible situations are shown:

- a) One where the equipment is connected to the Internet; and
- b) one where the equipment is not connected to the Internet.

In figure 1, "equipment 1" 6 and "equipment 2" 8 exemplify the situation where the equipment is connected to the Internet, while "equipment 3" 10 exemplify the situation where equipment is not connected to the Internet. Depending on the collection of parameters, of which at least one parameter is a personal identification (Id), transmitted from the user by means of the mobile phone terminal 2 to the home environment 16, a corresponding personal equipment configuration profile is forwarded to the equipment 6, 8, 10, and the equipment 6, 8, 10 is configured accordingly.

In the home environment 16, a call control API is located in-between the service layer and the H.323/SIP layer, as illustrated by the block assigned reference numeral 17.

The badge Id is a personal Id, and is directly connected to the identity of a particular user..

The home environment 16 is a location where the user 1 keeps or stores her/his profiles according to e.g. GSM's Home Location Register (HLR). The home environment 16 includes an electronic memory means to hold or store the personal profiles, the memory means preferably being an electronic database (DB) system. In situations where the network is H.323 enabled, preferably an H.323 gatekeeper is providing the services of the home environment 16. However, in a SIP enabled network, preferably a SIP server would perform these tasks.

In the following, a few examples of equipment and advantages of the solution provided by the present invention are presented. It should be kept in mind that authentication, security etc. are inherent to and provided by a H.323 (or SIP) enabled network, and, therefore, will greatly enhance a system according to the invention.

- In a situation example where the equipment, such as e.g. one or more of equipments 6, 8 or 10 shown in fig. 1, is a multimedia terminal, then the home environment can be updated with information about the current location of the user, for the purpose of e.g. redirecting every invoke to the user towards the multimedia terminal. Since a multimedia terminal typically has better capabilities than the mobile phone terminal 2, the user may prefer to use the multimedia terminal instead of the mobile phone terminal. This service provided by a system according to the invention can be referred to as a multi-terminal service
- In another situation example, where the operation of the equipment is software based, in dependence of the parameters transmitted from the user's terminal 2 to the

home environment 16, corresponding software is forwarded to the equipment 6, 8 or 10, installed and put into operation to obtain the required equipment functions, capabilities and/or properties.

- In yet another situation example, the equipment 6, 8 or 10, is a video or sound player. Depending on the badge Id transmitted from the badge 4 and forwarded to the home environment 16, the corresponding favourite video and/or sound programming are forwarded to the equipment 6, 8 or 10 to be enjoyed by the user 1.

In the situation examples above reference has in many cases been made to the industry standard wireless Bluetooth technology, but it will be understood that other wireless technologies may be utilised in a system according to the invention.

In both of the above mentioned cases, a Personal Equipment Service (PES) function allocated in the Service Node 15 of a H.323 (or SIP) based network may serve the requests for the user specific or tailor-made equipment profile to be downloaded. Other services existing might interact with the PES service.

In the following, the invention will be explained by way of example for an arrangement where the equipment is not connected to Internet. In these examples, reference is only made to H.323, but the network utilised in a system according to the invention could also be some other IP enabled network, such as e.g. a SIP based network.

Now, referring to fig. 2, a sequence example of a method according to the invention, preferably employed in a system like the system shown in fig. 1 comprising equipment to be controlled that is not connected to the IP network, is shown for a system using a mobile phone terminal for downloading personal profiles or settings in order to configure the equipment according to personal needs. The badge Id and the equipment Id are in steps 19 and 20, respectively, transferred by respective short-range wireless devices, such as e.g. Bluetooth technology devices, to the mobile phone terminal when these are within range of each other. In step 21, the mobile phone terminal transmits a set of information comprising its own Id and/or the mobile phone number, the received badge Id and equipment Id, and, optionally, location information, and through steps 22, 23 and 24, the set of information is transferred to the home environment in order to identify the person and the equipment to be configured to the requirements of the user. The personal profiles or settings, preferably stored in the home environment, are then through steps 25, 26, 27 and 28 forwarded from the home environment, by means of the network, to the mobile phone terminal. In turn, the mobile phone terminal, in step 29,

forwards by short-range wireless means, such as e.g. Bluetooth technology devices, the profile to the equipment and which then is configured accordingly. It will be readily apparent to a person skilled in the art that the technology of the mobile phone terminal is not limiting for the invention, and that the mobile phone terminal in this situation can be based on any known or coming mobile phone technology (GSM, UMTS etc.) that is capable of communicating with a network and having an interface adapted to forward electronically to a short-range wireless device, information received via the network. It will also be understood that the location information can be used for triggering location dependent services provided by the equipment to be controlled, by the profile or settings provided by the home environment and intended for to the equipment.

It will be understood, as can be seen from fig. 1, that in an arrangement according to the invention, a wireless device 3, such as e.g. a Bluetooth technology device, that is enabled for and potentially able to convey and/or forward the badge Id to the home environment, is associated with and connected to the mobile phone terminal 2. Accordingly, the equipment, exemplified in fig. 1 by equipments 6, 8 and 10, included in an arrangement employing the invention, are each in communication with a corresponding a wireless device, such as e.g. a Bluetooth technology device, 5, 7 and 9, respectively. The arrangement shown by the example of fig. 1 also comprises a gateway (GW) function 11, 12 between the Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) and the H.323 network. For security purposes, GSM information is for example encrypted so as to maintain the security within the PLMN network, while the H.323 network can by inherent functions provide corresponding security connections. In the H.323 network, a H.323 gatekeeper (UA) (not shown in fig. 1, but illustrated by the sequence diagrams of figs. 2 and 3) is communicating with the Service Agent (SA) (referred to as the "service layer" in fig. 1) running the Personal Equipment Service (PES) over a call control API (CC-API). The CC-API can be any suitable CC-API, such as a proprietary type, a Telephone Application Interface (TAPI), Parly, etc. The H.323 GK (UA) is responsible for charging the user, i.e. for sending Call Detail Records (CDRs) to a *per se* known billing server (not shown) of the network, as well as for authenticating the user. If a quality of service (QoS) is specified and/or required, the UA can also be responsible for setting up a connections from the UA towards the equipment with a certain QoS. The SA is referred to as the service layer in figure 1.

In an alternative embodiment of an arrangement according to the invention, the badge 4 can be incorporated into the mobile communication terminal 2.

In the following, and with reference to figure 3, a method according to the invention will be explained, by way of example, for an alternative arrangement where the equipment is connected to Internet. Examples of such equipment with connection to the Internet are also illustrated in fig. 1 by equipments represented by "equipment 1" 6 and "equipment 2" 8. Further, in this example, reference is only made to H.323, but the network could but the network utilised in a system according to the invention could also be some other IP enabled network, such as e.g. a SIP based network.

With reference to fig. 2, it can be said that the mobile phone can be regarded superfluous in this case, and that an Internet connection 13, 14 linking the equipment 6,8 with the Internet can be used for both sending and receiving the badge Id and the personal profiles, or settings, respectively, between the equipment 6,8 and the home environment 16. In this case, where the equipment is connected to the Internet, the sequence flow shown in fig.3 is only in part like the sequence described in the previous explanation with reference to fig. 2. In fig. 3, if the equipment to be controlled or configured is H.323 adapted, then the HTTP service channel (see specification H.323, Annex K) can be used for sending the badge Id from the badge 4 to the equipment 6 or 8, via the equipment associated wireless device 5 or 7, respectively, and receiving the equipment profiles. A personal wireless electronic badge, in step 30, when coming into range of a wireless device connected to equipment to be controlled, sends its Id to the equipment. In steps 31, 32 and 33, a set of information including the badge Id, equipment Id and, if available, location information is forwarded via the network from the equipment to the home environment represented by the SA (PES). In turn, the SA looks up the combination of badge Id and equipment Id, and, if a profile or equipment setting corresponding to the information set is found, in steps 34, 35 and 36, the profile or equipment settings forwarded via the network directly from the SA (PES) to the equipment. On receiving the profile, the equipment is configured accordingly. In this example, authentication and/or access control is provided by the UA or SA, depending on the actual implementation.

Alternatively, as a variant of combining parts of the sequences illustrated in fig. 2 and 3, an arrangement utilising the invention can according to steps 19 through 24 use a mobile phone terminal for transferring the information set, via the network, to the home environment (or SA (PES)), while the corresponding profile is transferred according to steps 34 through 36 via an Internet connection directly from the home environment (or SA (PES)) to the equipment.

Without a mobile telephone terminal, the location info is in the case illustrated by fig. 3, not as easily transferred as in the case illustrated by fig. 2 using a mobile phone. This is because, when it comes to Internet based equipment, no well known technology mapping IP address etc. to location is available, while, when using a mobile phone, the mobile phone can be used for obtaining and/or providing location information.

ADVANTAGES

Reduces personal efforts in configuration of personal equipment, in particular when the equipment is used by many different persons requiring different equipment configurations or settings, and also when the equipment is used frequently by the same persons.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

SIP Session Initiation Protocol
OS Operating System
HW Hardware
HLR Home Location Register
SA Service Agent
UA User Agent
PES Personal Equipment Service

P a t e n t c l a i m s

1.

An arrangement for automatic equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, characterised in a user identity badge provided with a first wireless communication device having a first identifier,

controllable equipment automatically responsive to a user profile and provided with and connected to a second wireless communication device having a second identifier, a mobile communication terminal adapted to communicate by an Internet Protocol (IP) network, said mobile communication terminal being provided with and connected to a third wireless communication device having a third identifier, and a user profile server connected to said IP network and holding the predetermined user profile,

wherein,

said first, second and third wireless communication devices are adapted to communicate wirelessly with one another,

said first wireless communication device is adapted to communicate to said second wireless communication device, when in-range, the first identifier,

said second wireless communication device is adapted to communicate to said third wireless communication device, when in-range, the first and second identifiers, the mobile equipment is adapted to communicate to the user profile server the first, second and third identifiers, and

the user profile server is adapted to communicate to the controllable equipment, via the mobile terminal, the third wireless device and second wireless device, on basis of the second and third identifiers, the predetermined user profile in response to receiving the first and second identifiers.

2.

The arrangement of claim 1, characterised in that said mobile communication terminal is enabled to communicate to said user profile server, via said IP network, a user identifier received from said user identity badge, and an equipment identifier received, optionally via said user identity badge, from said equipment.

3.

The arrangement of claim 2, characterised in that

said user profile server is enabled to communicate, via said IP network and said mobile communication terminal and, optionally, via said user identity badge, the predetermined user profile to the identified equipment in response to receiving said user identifier and equipment identifier.

4.

The arrangement of any one of the previous claims,
characterised in that said predetermined user profile is stored in a memory of said user profile server.

5.

An arrangement for automatic equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, characterised in a user identity badge provided with a first wireless communication device having a first identifier, controllable equipment automatically responsive to a user profile, said controllable equipment provided with and connected to a second wireless communication device having a second identifier, and connected to an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and a user profile server connected to said IP network and holding the predetermined user profile,

wherein,

said first and second wireless communication devices are adapted to communicate wirelessly with one another, said first wireless communication device is adapted to communicate to said second wireless communication device, when in-range, the first identifier, said controllable equipment is adapted to communicate to the user profile server, via the Internet Protocol (IP) network, the first and second identifiers, and the user profile server is adapted to communicate to the controllable equipment, via the Internet Protocol (IP) network, on basis of the second identifier, the predetermined user profile in response to receiving the first and second identifiers.

6.

The arrangement of claim 5, characterised in that said equipment is enabled to communicate an equipment identifier and a user identifier received from the user identity badge to said user profile server.

7.

The arrangement of claim 6, characterised in that said user profile server is enabled to communicate the predetermined user profile to said equipment in response to receiving said user identifier and equipment identifier.

8.

The arrangement of claim 7, characterised in that said predetermined user profile is stored in a memory of said user profile server.

9.

The arrangement of any of the previous claims, characterised in that said IP network is a multimedia network, a H.323 network or a SIP network.

10:

The arrangement of any of the previous claims, characterised in that the first and second wireless communication devices are Bluetooth enabled wireless communication devices.

11.

A method for equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, characterised in
wirelessly communicating a user identifier from a user identity badge to a mobile communication terminal,
wirelessly communicating an equipment identifier from an equipment to be controlled to a mobile communication terminal,
forwarding from said mobile communication terminal, via a gateway to an IP network, a first information set including said user identifier and equipment identifier and/or a mobile terminal identifier to a User Agent (UA) in a Internet Protocol network,
forwarding from said UA said first information set, via a Call Control API (CC-API), to a Service Agent (SA),
returning from said SA a second information set including said predetermined user profile, via said Call Control API (CC-API), to said UA,
forwarding from said UA said second information set, via a gateway to a mobile communication network, to said mobile communication terminal,
wirelessly communicating from said mobile communication terminal said second information set to said equipment, and
configuring said equipment according to said predetermined user profile.

12.

A method for equipment remote control according to a predetermined user profile, characterised in wirelessly communicating a user identifier from a user identity badge to an equipment, forwarding from said equipment said user identifier and an equipment identifier to a User Agent (UA) in an Internet Protocol (IP) network, forwarding from said UA information including said user identifier and equipment identifier, via a Call Control API (CC-API), to a Service Agent (SA), returning from said SA information including said predetermined user profile, via said Call Control API (CC-API), to said UA, forwarding from said UA said predetermined user profile to said equipment, and configuring said equipment according to said predetermined user profile.

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The method of claim 11, characterised in that said mobile terminal is a mobile telephone, and said mobile terminal identifier includes a telephone number of said mobile telephone.

14.

The method of claim 11, 12 or 13, characterised in that said IP network is a multimedia network, a H.323 network or a SIP network.

15.

The method of claim 11 - 14, characterised in that wirelessly communicating is performed by of a Bluetooth enabled wireless device.

1/3

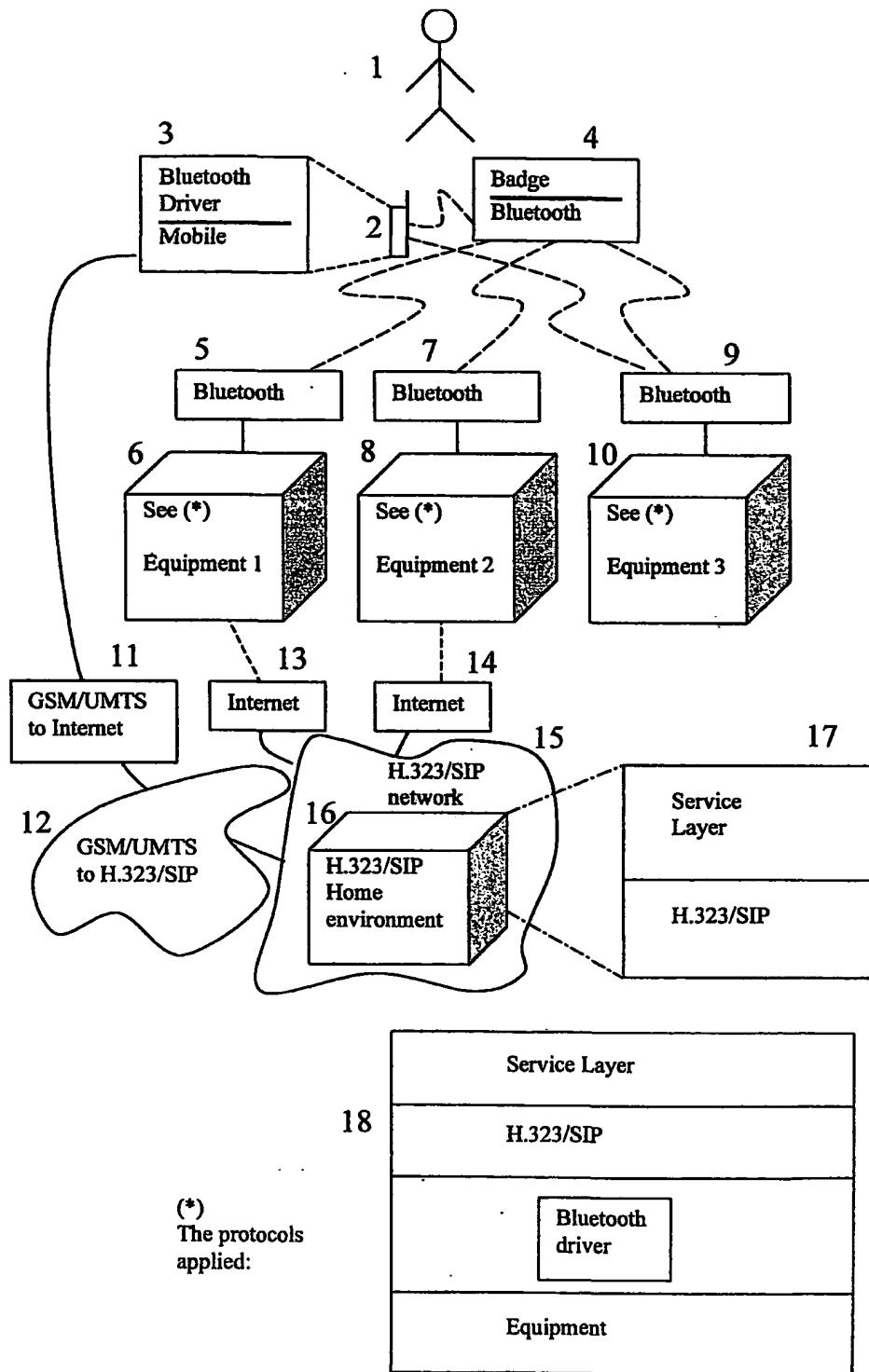


Fig. 1

2/3

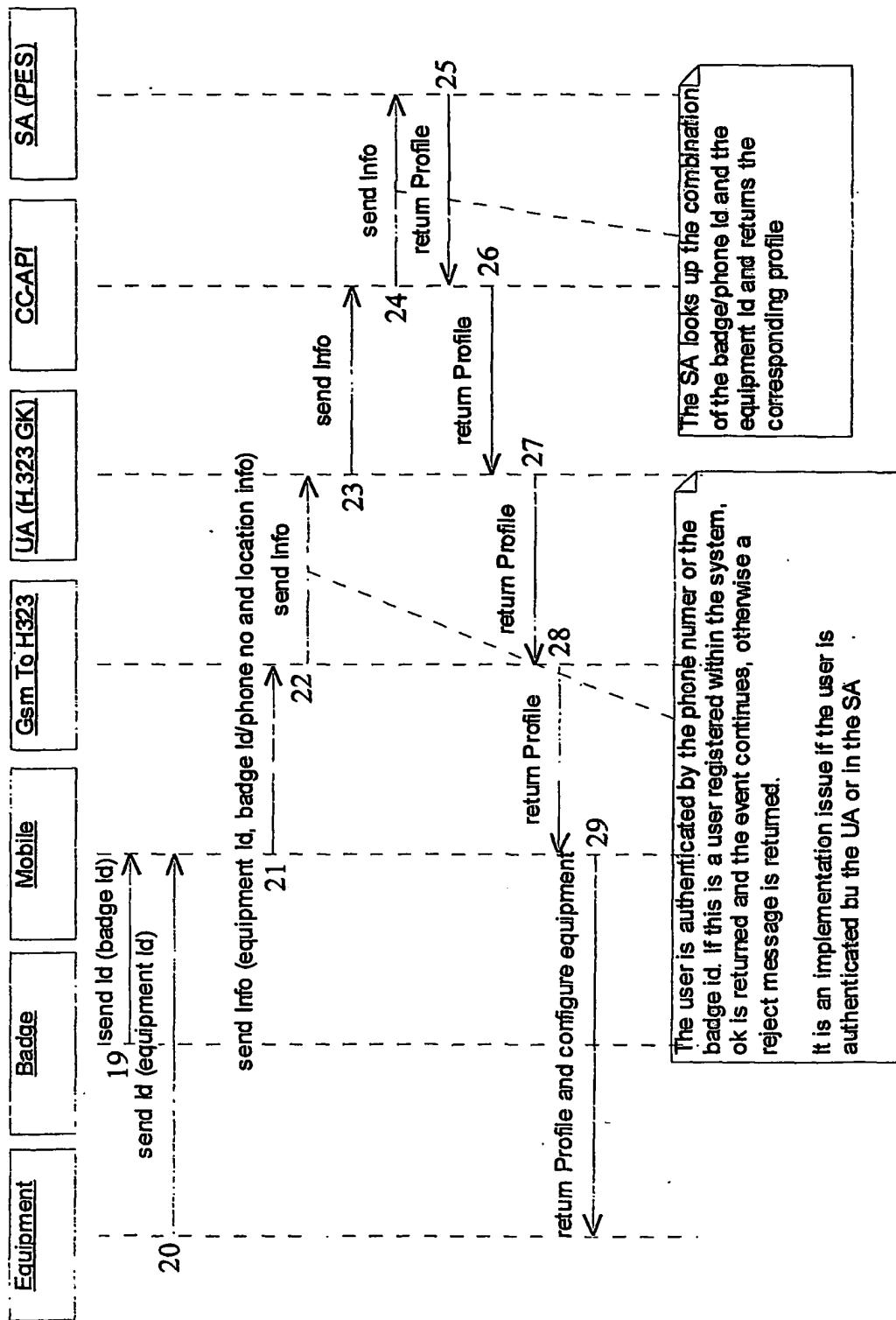


Fig. 2

3/3

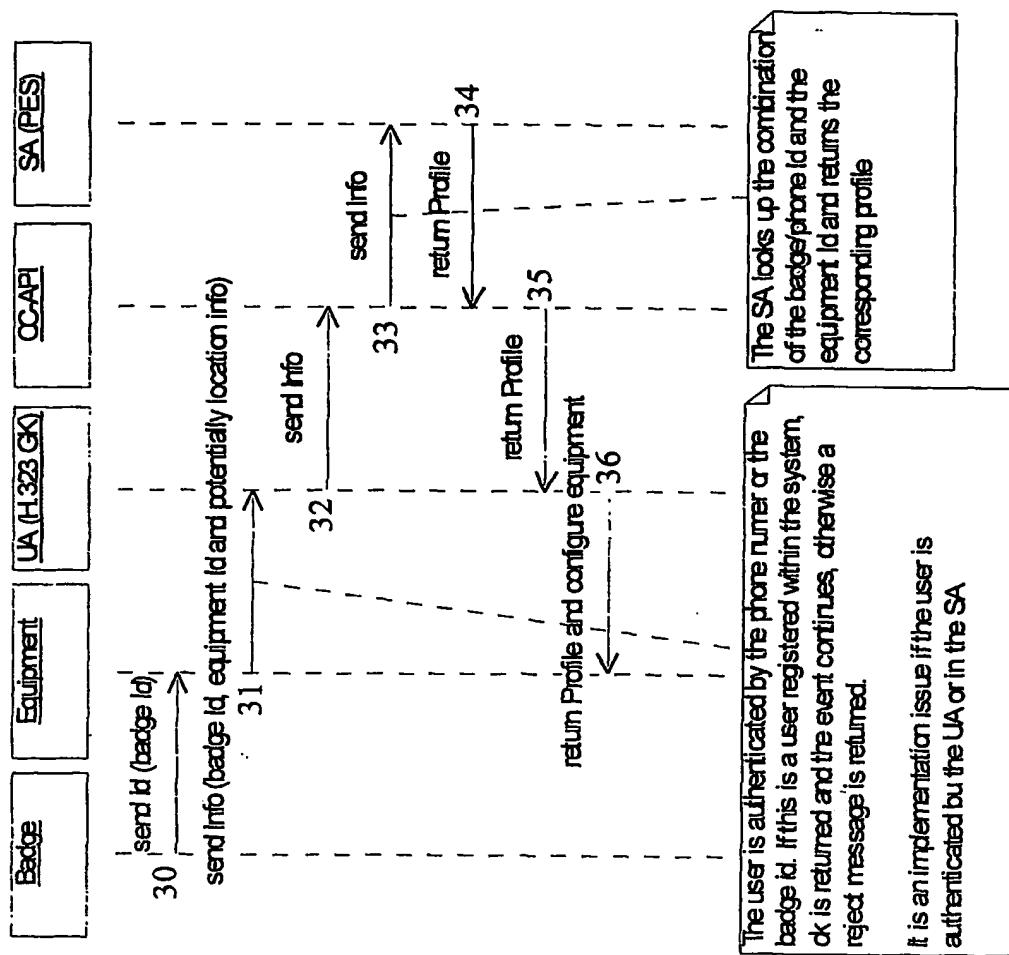


Fig. 3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NO 01/00426

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06F 17/60, H04Q 7/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: G06F, H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 0129731 A1 (3COM CORP), 26 April 2001 (26.04.01), page 3, line 18 - page 6, line 22, abstract --	1-15
Y	US 6108540 A (SONTI,J.V. ET AL), 22 August 2000 (22.08.00), column 2, line 30 - column 3, line 65, abstract --	1-10
Y	WO 9933293 A1 (GLOBAL MOBILITY SYSTEMS, INC), 1 July 1999 (01.07.99), page 3, line 1 - page 5, line 16; page 14, line 18 - page 15, line 25 --	1-10

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

- * Special categories of cited documents:
- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
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- "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search:

12 February 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NO 01/00426

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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